

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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DTSC Approves Dow's Hazardous Waste Permit for Pittsburg Facility

Berkeley - - The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced it has approved the hazardous waste facility boiler and industrial furnace permit for the <u>Dow Chemical Company</u> located in Pittsburg in Contra Costa County. Operations at Dow's Pittsburg facility include research, development and the manufacture of products for agricultural operation, pest control services, paper manufacture, carpet mills, and biocides.

The Dow facility, located on Loveridge Road in Pittsburg, is part of a larger industrial complex consisting of 450 acres, about half of which is undeveloped. Dow also owns the adjacent 200 acres of land next to the industrial complex which is used as a wetlands preserve and a wildlife habitat.

The DTSC-issued permit authorizes Dow to continue storage of hazardous waste generated onsite and the processing of this hazardous waste in boiler and industrial furnaces (BIFS) at its Pittsburg facility. The treatment units at the facility consist of two boiler and industrial furnaces, also known as Halogen Acid Furnaces or HAF units, as well as associated hydrochloric acid recovery and air pollution control systems. The HAF units have been in operation at the plant for more than 20 years.

The permit will be in effect for a period of 10 years and will become effective April 28, 2003, unless the permit is appealed by petition to DTSC. In accordance with the California Code of Regulations, any person who filed comments on the draft permit during the public comment periods may petition DTSC to review any condition of the permit decision. Petitions must be submitted by April 23, 2003, and sent to: Watson Gin, DTSC, P.O. Box 806, Sacramento, CA 95812-0806, with a copy of the petition sent to Mohinder Sandhu, DTSC 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710-2721.

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The administrative record containing all correspondence pertaining to this project, including DTSC's response to comments and the final permit, are available for review by the public at the DTSC File Room located at 700 Heinz Avenue in Berkeley and at the Pittsburg Public Library at 65 Civic Center in Pittsburg. Persons interested in reviewing documents at the DTSC file room in Berkeley should call (510) 540-3800 to make an appointment.

For more information regarding DTSC's permit decision on Dow's Pittsburg facility or the petition process, please contact Waqar Ahmad at (510) 540-3932 or wahmad@dtsc.ca.gov.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

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"The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at www.dtsc.ca.gov."